



Chapter 7

Glossary of Terms

1890 Act reserved rights-of-way	Rights-of-way, for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States, were reserved in all patents issued on public lands west of the 100th Meridian entered after August 30, 1890. (Patents are the initial conveyance of public lands from the United States.) These reserved rights-of-way can be exercised either by Confirmation Deed, Right-of-Way Notice, or through construction itself.
A&B Irrigation District	The North Side Pumping Division. A&B irrigates 77,000 acres to the north of the Gravity Division, in Minidoka and Jerome Counties. Unit A (15,000 acres) is served by pumping from the Snake River. Unit B (62,000 acres) is irrigated from deep wells which tap the Snake Plain aquifer. Reclamation constructed the project in the 1950s.
Accessibility	Providing participation in programs and use of facilities to persons with a disability. Disability is defined with respect to an individual: (1) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such an individual; (2) a record of such an impairment; or (3) being regarded as having such an impairment.
Acquired Lands	Lands which Reclamation has acquired by purchase, donation, exchange, or condemnation.
Acre-foot	Volume of water (43,560 cubic feet) that would cover 1 acre of land, 1 foot deep.
Action Alternative	A change in the current management approach.
Affected environment	Existing biological, physical, social, and economic conditions of an area subject to change, both directly and indirectly, as the result of a proposed human action. Also, the portion of an environmental document describing current environmental conditions.

Algae	Mostly aquatic single celled, colonial, or multicelled plants, containing chlorophyll and lacking stems, roots, and leaves.
Algal bloom	Rapid and flourishing growth of algae.
Alluvial	Pertaining to or composed of alluvium, or deposited by a stream or running water.
Alluvium	An accumulation of sediments deposited by streams or rivers.
Alternatives	Courses of action that may meet the objectives of a proposal at varying levels of accomplishment, including the most likely future conditions without the management plan or action.
Amphibian	Vertebrate animal that has a life stage in water and a life stage on land (for example, salamanders, frogs, and toads).
Aquatic	Living or growing in or on the water.
Archeology	Related to the study of human cultures through the recovery and analysis of their material relics.
Archeological site	A discrete location that provides physical evidence of past human use.
Artifact	A human-made object.
Artificial wetlands	Areas created to intentionally hold moisture or ponded water such that wetland vegetation (e.g., cattails, bulrush, sedges, willows) can establish, thus providing forage and shelter to numerous wildlife species and reducing sediment loads in the water.
Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Activities that are added to typical operation, construction, or maintenance efforts that help to protect environmental resources by avoiding or minimizing impacts of an action.
Burley Irrigation District (BID)	The South Side Pumping Division of the Minidoka Project. BID irrigates 48,000 acres, immediately south of the Snake River. Title to the U.S. facilities, lands, and interests in lands were transferred to BID on 2/24/00.
Community	A group of one or more interacting populations of plants and animals in a common spatial arrangement at a particular point in time.
Concentration	The density or amount of a substance in a solution (water quality).

Conservation measures	Similar to mitigation measures (defined below), conservation measures are actions taken to avoid impacts to species protected under the Endangered Species Act.
Cubic foot per second (cfs)	As a rate of streamflow, a cubic foot of water passing a reference section in 1 second of time. A measure of a moving volume of water.
Cultural resource	Cultural resources are historic and traditional properties that reflect our heritage.
Drainwater projects	Areas in which water is intentionally ponded such that injection of irrigation run-off water into the aquifer is reduced and, in some situations, lower water velocities allow sediment to precipitate out of the water column.
Drawdown	Lowering of a reservoir's water level; process of releasing reservoir storage.
Endangered species	A species or subspecies that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
Eolian	Pertaining to sediment deposition by wind; such as loess and dune sand, or sedimentary structures such as wind-formed ripple marks. Erosion and deposition accomplished by the wind.
Ephemeral stream	A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation, and thus discontinues its flow during dry seasons. Such flow is usually of short duration. Most of the dry washes of more arid regions may be classified as ephemeral streams.
Erosion	Refers to soil and the wearing away of the land surface by water, wind, ice, or other physical processes.
Eutrophic	A body of water with high nutrient levels.
Evapotranspiration	The amount of water that transpires through a plants' leaves, combined with the amount that evaporates from the soil in which it is growing.
Exotic species	A non-native species that is introduced into an area.
Facilities	Manmade structures.
Federal lands	Lands, or interests in lands (such as easements and rights-of-way), owned by the United States.

Fish and Game Tracts/Wildlife Tracts	Certain Extension lands which were designated as wildlife habitat areas. These lands are managed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game under agreements with Reclamation. The goal is to protect and improve these lands for long-range wildlife use as escape and winter cover.
Fish and Wildlife Service Species of Concern	Species identified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for which further biological research and field study are needed to resolve these species' conservation status.
Forb	Herbaceous plant that is not a grass, sedge, or rush. Non-woody herbs and wildflowers are examples of forbs.
Grass	Herbaceous plants with jointed stems, slender sheathing leaves, and flowers borne in spikelets of bracts.
Habitat	Area where a plant or animal finds suitable living conditions.
Hydrologic	Pertaining to the quantity, quality, and timing of water.
Indian Sacred Sites	Defined in Executive Order 13007 as "any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on Federal land that is identified by an Indian tribe, or Indian individual determined to be an appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian religion; provided that the tribe or appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion has informed the agency of the existence of such a site."
Indian Trust Assets (ITAs)	Legal interests in property held in trust by the United States for Indian Tribes or individuals, such as lands, minerals, hunting and fishing rights, and water rights.
Injection wells	Some irrigation return flow from Unit B, the ground-water unit of the North Side Pumping Division is disposed of through injection wells which pass water directly underground into the Snake Plain aquifer. Injection wells are used because the area lacks natural surface drainage outlets. The North Side Pumping Division originally had 78 injection wells; about 27 of them are still in operation. These wells also provide drainage for stormwater runoff, which can amount to larger amounts of runoff than the Project irrigation return flows.
Intermittent streams	Streams that contain running water longer than ephemeral streams but not all year.
Juvenile	Young animal that has not reached reproductive age.

Migratory birds	Most birds in North America are considered to be migratory birds under one or more of the four international Migratory Bird Treaty Conventions to which the United States is a signatory. Under provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Acts, it is unlawful “by any means or manner to pursue, hunt, take, capture, or kill” any migratory birds except as permitted by regulations issued by the FWS.
Minidoka Irrigation District (MID)	The Gravity Division of the Minidoka Project. MID irrigates 72,000 acres to the south of the North Side Pumping Division. Reclamation constructed the Project starting in 1905.
Mitigation measures	Action taken to avoid, reduce the severity of, or eliminate an adverse impact. Mitigation can include one or more of the following: (1) avoiding impacts; (2) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of an action; (3) rectifying impacts by restoration, rehabilitation, or repair of the affected environment; (4) reducing or eliminating impacts over time; and (5) compensating for an unavoidable impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments to offset the loss.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	A Federally maintained register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and properties that meet the criteria of significance defined in 36 CFR 63.
Neotropical migrant	Birds that breed in North America and winter in tropical and subtropical America.
No Action Alternative	The outcome expected from a continuation of current management practices.
North Side Pumping Division	Constructed by Reclamation in the 1950s. Irrigates 77,000 acres. The Project is operated by the A&B Irrigation District.
North Side Pumping Division Extension Plan	A plan proposed in the 1980s for the management and use of the scattered tracts of dry Federal lands located in and adjacent to Reclamation’s existing North Side Pumping Division. This plan included providing irrigation service to 9,400 acres of irrigable drylands (part of each tract would be managed for wildlife habitat by the new landowner), and improving and managing 5,590 acres of Federal lands for wildlife (Idaho Department of Fish and Game would manage these lands). In addition, other future land uses were recognized in the plan. This plan is now considered no longer economically feasible, mainly due to lack of water availability. The extension plan project was never Congressionally authorized.

Off-road vehicle (ORV) use	Reclamation lands are closed to ORV use, unless specifically opened.
Perennial	Plants that have a life cycle that lasts for more than 2 years.
Precipitation	Rain, sleet, and snow.
Preferred Alternative	The primary alternative considered by Reclamation for implementation following analysis in the Environmental Assessment. This analysis, along with public input, could alter management actions described in the Preferred Alternative. If this occurs, any changes would be documented in the Final Environmental Assessment.
Project facilities	Canals, laterals, drains, pumps, buildings, and etc. owned by the United States. <i>Note:</i> Title to Project facilities and lands remains in the United States until specific legislation is enacted to authorize relinquishment (regardless of who is responsible for care, operation and maintenance of the facilities).
Project purposes	Lands are withdrawn and acquired for authorized purposes of the specific Reclamation Project. These can include irrigation, flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife.
Public involvement	The systematic provision for affected publics to be informed about and participate in Reclamation decision making. It centers around effective, open exchange and communication among the partners, agencies, organizations, and all the various affected publics.
Public lands	Public lands include only those Federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (with the exception of lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf and lands held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos).
Qualifying partner	A non-Federal public entity managing partner that manages all or a portion of lands and/or facilities on Reclamation-owned lands.
Raptor	Any predatory bird, such as a falcon, eagle, hawk, or owl, that has feet with sharp talons or claws and a hooked beak.

Reclamation Project lands	<p>Federal lands or interests in lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). Includes withdrawn lands, acquired lands, and 1890 Act reserved rights-of-way which have been exercised.</p> <p><i>Note:</i> Reclamation Project Lands are not the same as public lands. Reclamation Project Lands were initially withdrawn, acquired or exercised for specific Project purposes, and are governed by different Federal land management laws and regulations than public lands. Public uses of Reclamation Project Lands can be suspended as necessary to protect Project Facilities, and Reclamation Project Lands are not open to off-road vehicles unless specifically opened for that use.</p>
Reclamation zone	Area located immediately around the dam and administered by Reclamation.
Record Tree	This tree, formerly located at Bishop's Hole, holds the record for being the biggest Eastern Cottonwood in the United States. It broke apart during Spring 2002 because it was weak on the inside from old age.
Relinquishment	Notification to BLM by a Federal agency (like Reclamation) that specific withdrawn lands are no longer needed for Project purposes.
Reptile	Cold-blooded vertebrate of the class Reptilia, comprised of turtles, snakes, lizards, and crocodiles.
Reserved works	Those Project facilities for which the care, operation, and maintenance has been retained by the United States.
Resident	A wildlife species commonly found in an area during a particular season: summer, winter, or year round.
Resource topics	The components of the natural and human environment that could be affected by the alternatives, such as water quality, wildlife, socioeconomic, and cultural resources.
Resource Management Plan (RMP)	A 15-year plan developed by Reclamation to manage their lands and resources in the Study Area.
Restoration	An action by BLM that restores withdrawn land to the status of unreserved public lands subject to settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws.

Revocation	The actual cancellation of a withdrawal by the Bureau of Land Management. Revocations do not necessarily open the land to settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws.
Riparian	Of, on, or pertaining to the bank of a river, pond, or lake where soil moisture levels are higher than in surrounding uplands.
Runoff	That part of precipitation that contributes to streamflow, groundwater, lakes, or reservoir storage.
Sediment	Unconsolidated solid material that comes from weathering of rock and is carried by, suspended in, or deposited by water or wind.
Shrub	A woody perennial, smaller than a tree, usually with several stems.
Songbird	Small to medium-sized birds that perch and vocalize or “sing,” primarily during the breeding season.
Spawning	Laying eggs directly in water, especially in reference to fish.
Species	In taxonomy, a subdivision of a genus that (1) has a high degree of similarity, (2) is capable of interbreeding only within the species, and (3) shows persistent differences from members of allied species.
Steppe	A plain without trees (apart from near rivers and lakes), the same as a prairie. It may be semi-desert or covered with grass or shrubs, or both depending on the season.
Study Area	The area evaluated in this Environmental Assessment as being directly affected by potential management actions described in the Resource Management Plan.
Threatened species	Any species that has the potential of becoming endangered in the near future and is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	A TMDL is a pollution reduction plan that accounts for all pollutant sources to the water and determines how much each source is allowed to contribute. The basic premise is that if existing pollutant inputs (loads) from all sources are reduced to a specified level (the maximum daily load), and a margin of safety is added, then water quality goals will be achieved.

Traditional Cultural Property (TCP)	A site or resource that is eligible for inclusion in the <i>National Register of Historic Places</i> because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community.
Transferred works	Those Project facilities for which the care, operation, and maintenance has been transferred from the United States to the irrigation districts.
Water quality limited	A water body that exceeds water quality standards or does not support its designated beneficial use, such as cold water habitat or primary contact recreation.
Wetland habitat	Wildlife habitat associated with water less than 6 feet deep, with or without emergent and aquatic vegetation in wetlands.
Wetlands	Lands transitional between aquatic and terrestrial systems where the water table is usually at or near the land surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Often called marshes or wet meadows.
Withdrawn lands	Withholding of an area of public land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws for the following purposes: (1) to limit activity under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area; (2) to reserve the area for a particular public purpose or program, or (3) to transfer jurisdiction of the area from one Federal agency to another.

